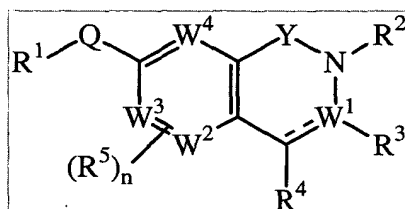


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5

1. A compound of Formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
wherein:

10

R¹ is independently selected from:

- C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- C₈-C₁₀ bicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted C₈-C₁₀ bicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 15 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 20 Phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 25 Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C₁-C₈ alkylenyl);
- Phenyl;
- Substituted phenyl;
- 30 Naphthyl;

Substituted naphthyl;
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;
8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl; and
Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl;

5

R^2 is independently selected from:

H;
 C_1 - C_6 alkyl;
Phenyl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted phenyl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Naphthyl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted naphthyl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Phenyl-O- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted phenyl-O- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Phenyl-S- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted phenyl-S- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Phenyl-S(O)- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Substituted phenyl-S(O)- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);
Phenyl-S(O)₂- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene); and
Substituted phenyl-S(O)₂- $(C_1$ - C_8 alkylene);

10

15

20

25

Each substituted R^1 and R^2 group contains from 1 to 4 substituents, each independently on a carbon or nitrogen atom, independently selected from:

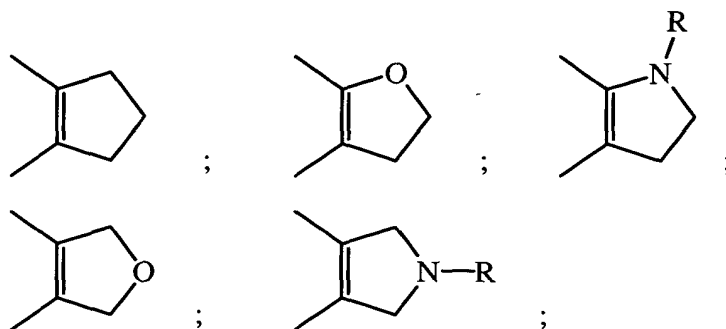
C_1 - C_6 alkyl;
CN;
CF₃;
HO;
 $(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-O;
 $(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)-S(O)₂;

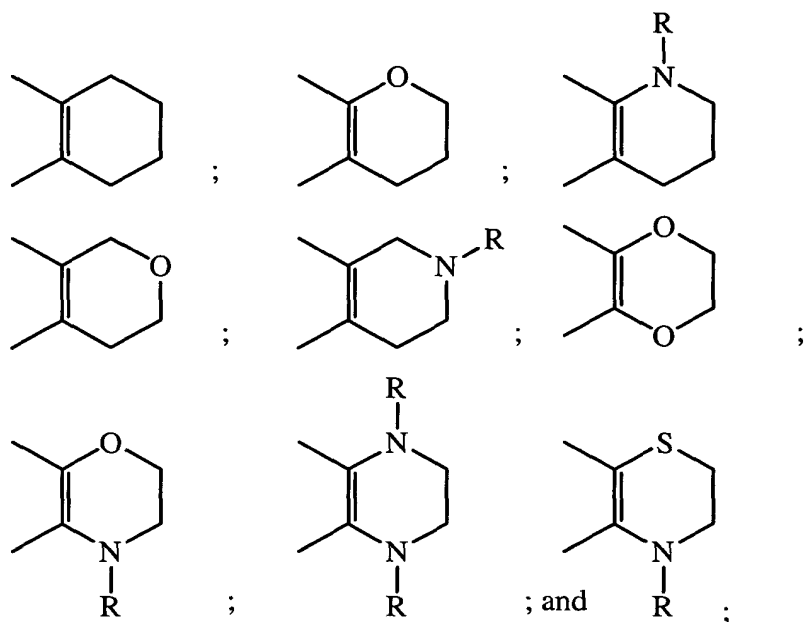
30

- H_2N ;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-N(H)}$;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})_2\text{-N}$;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-C(O)O-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$;
5 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-C(O)O-(1- to 8-membered heteroalkylenyl)}_m$;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-C(O)N(H)-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-C(O)N(H)-(1- to 8-membered heteroalkylenyl)}_m$;
 $\text{H}_2\text{NS(O)}_2\text{-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}$;
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-N(H)S(O)}_2\text{-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$;
10 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})_2\text{-NS(O)}_2\text{-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$;
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)_m;
Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)_m;
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)_m;
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)_m;
15 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-S(O)}_2\text{-N(H)-C(O)-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$; and
 $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6 \text{ alkyl})\text{-C(O)-N(H)-S(O)}_2\text{-(C}_1\text{-C}_8 \text{ alkylenyl)}_m$;
wherein each substituent on a carbon atom may further be
independently selected from:
Halo; and
20 HO_2C ;

wherein 2 substituents may be taken together with a carbon atom to which
they are both bonded to form the group C=O ;

wherein two adjacent, substantially sp^2 carbon atoms may be taken
together with a diradical substituent to form a cyclic diradical
25 selected from:





R is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

5 G is CH₂; O, S, S(O); or S(O)₂;

Each m is an integer of 0 or 1;

R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from the groups:

H;

C₁-C₆ alkyl;

10 Substituted C₁-C₆ alkyl;

C₂-C₆ alkenyl;

Substituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl;

C₂-C₆ alkynyl;

Substituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl;

15 C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

Substituted C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);

Substituted C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);

Phenyl;

20 Substituted phenyl;

Phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);

Substituted phenyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);

Naphthyl;

Substituted Naphthyl;
Naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);
Substituted naphthyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;
5 Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene);
Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C₁-C₈ alkylene)
HO;
(C₁-C₆ alkyl)-O;
10 H₂N;
(C₁-C₆ alkyl)-N(H);
(C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂-N;

Each substituted R³ and R⁴ group contains from 1 to 4 substituents, each
independently on a carbon or nitrogen atom, independently
15 selected from:

H₂N;
C₁-C₆ alkyl;
CN;
CF₃;
20 (C₁-C₆ alkyl)-OC(O);
HO;
(C₁-C₆ alkyl)-O;
HS; and
(C₁-C₆ alkyl)-S;

25 wherein each substituent on a carbon atom may further be
independently selected from:

Halo; and
HO₂C;

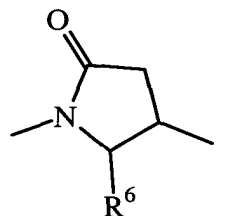
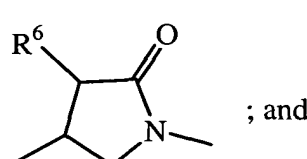
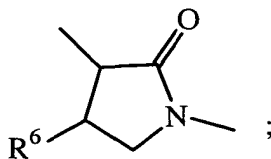
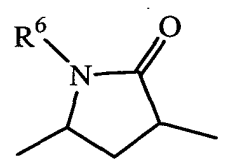
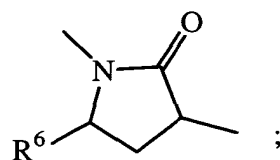
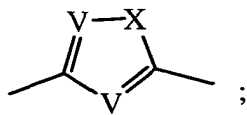
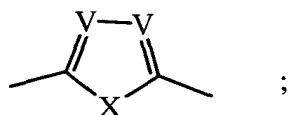
wherein 2 substituents may be taken together with a carbon atom to which
30 they are both bonded to form the group C=O;

R⁵ is H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, H₂N, HO, or halo;

n is an integer of from 0 to 3;

Q is selected from:

OC(O);
 CH(R⁶)C(O);
 OC(NR⁶);
 CH(R⁶)C(NR⁶);
 5 N(R⁶)C(O);
 N(R⁶)C(S);
 N(R⁶)C(NR⁶);
 N(R⁶)CH₂;
 SC(O);
 10 CH(R⁶)C(S);
 SC(NR⁶);
 trans-(H)C=C(H);
 cis-(H)C=C(H);
 C≡C;
 15 CH₂C≡C;
 C≡CCH₂;
 CF₂C≡C; and
 C≡CCF₂;



20

R⁶ is H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl; 3- to 6-membered

heterocycloalkyl; phenyl; benzyl; or 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;

X is O, S, N(H), or N(C₁-C₆ alkyl);

25

Each V is independently C(H) or N;

Y is C(=O), CH₂; C(H)(R⁷), C(R⁷)₂; O; S; S(O); or S(O)₂;

Each R⁷ is independently C₁-C₆ alkyl, H₂N; HO; or halo;

---- means a bond which is optionally present or absent;

W¹ is independently N-R⁵ or C(H)R⁵ when ---- is absent, wherein R⁵ is as
5 defined above;

W¹ is independently N or C-R⁵ when ---- is a bond, wherein R⁵ is as
defined above;

Each W², W³, and W⁴ is independently N or C-R⁵, wherein R⁵ is as
defined above;

10 wherein at least 1 of W¹, W², W³, and W⁴ is N;

wherein each C₈-C₁₀ bicycloalkyl is a bicyclic carbocyclic ring that
contains 8-, 9-, or 10-member carbon atoms which are 5,5-fused,
6,5-fused, or 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein the
ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon double
15 bond;

wherein each 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl is a bicyclic ring that
contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently
selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)₂, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C₁-
C₆ alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S
20 atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom
are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or
optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double
bond, and wherein the heterobicycloalkyl is a 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused,
or 6,6-fused bicyclic ring, respectively,

25 wherein each heterocycloalkyl is a ring that contains carbon atoms and
from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1
S(O), 1 S(O)₂, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and wherein
when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the
two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each
30 other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one
carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond;

wherein each 5-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1 N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 4 N, and each 6-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from N, N(H), and N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 5- and 6-membered heteroaryl are monocyclic rings;

wherein each heterobiaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1 N(C₁-C₆ alkyl), and 4 N, and where the 8-, 9-, and 10-membered heterobiaryl are 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, and 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein at least 1 of the 2 fused rings of a bicyclic ring is aromatic, and wherein when the O and S atoms both are present, the O and S atoms are not bonded to each other;

wherein with any (C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂-N group, the C₁-C₆ alkyl groups may be optionally taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;

wherein each group and each substituent recited above is independently selected; and

wherein the compound named 4-[1-oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-isoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid is excluded.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y is C(=O) or CH₂.

3. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y is O, S, S(O), or S(O)₂.

4. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Q is N(R⁶)C(O).

5. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Q is C≡C, CH₂C≡C, C≡CCH₂, CF₂C≡C, or C≡CCF₂.

6. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein W^3 or W^4 is N and Q is N(H)C(O).
7. The compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:
- 5 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl);
10 Phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl); and
Substituted phenyl-(C_1 - C_8 alkylenyl).
8. The compound according to Claim 1, selected from:
- 15 4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-3-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-3-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid;
2-(3,5-Difluoro-4-hydroxybenzyl)-7-[3-(4H-[1,2,3]triazol-4-yl)prop-1-ynyl]-2H-3-azaisoquinolin-1-one;
20 7-(3-Phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-2H-5-azaisoquinolin-1-one;
2-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-2H-5-azaisoquinolin-1-one;
4-[7-(3-Imidazol-1-yl)prop-1-ynyl]-1-oxo-1H-5-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;
25 4-[7-(3-Imidazol-1-yl)prop-1-ynyl]-1-oxo-1H-5-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid;
3-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzonitrile;
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzenesulfonamide;
30 4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)prop-1-ynyl]-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid;
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-8-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid methyl ester;
5 3-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-8-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid methyl ester;
2-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-7-3-phenylprop-1-ynyl-2H-3,5-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;
7-(3-Phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-2H-3,6-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;
10 2-(3-Chlorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2H-3,8-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;
2-(3,4-Difluorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2H-5,8-diazaisoquinolin-1-one; and
15 4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,4]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-3,5,8-triazaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester; or
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a compound according to
20 Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.
10. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 9, comprising a
compound according to Claim 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
25 thereof, admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.
11. A method for treating osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis, comprising
administering to a patient suffering from osteoarthritis a nontoxic effective
30 amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the compound administered is a compound according to Claim 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.